

cated than during the campaign of Vienna. It was necessary on the one hand, to observe Prussia, which was occupied; and on the other to anticipate the Russians, whose movements indicated that they were inclined to strike the first blow. In the preceding campaign Austria, before the taking of Vienna, was engaged alone. The case was different now :- Austria had had only soldiers; and Prussia, as Blucher declared to me, was beginning to have citizens.¹ There was no difficulty in returning from Vienna, but a great deal in returning from Warsaw, in case of failure, notwithstanding the creation of the Kingdom of Saxony, and the provisional government given to Prussia, and to the other States of Germany which we had conquered. None of these considerations escaped the penetration of Napoleon : nothing was omitted in the notes, letters, arid official correspondence which came to me from all quarters. Receiving, as I did, accurate information from my own correspondents of all that was passing in Germany, it often happened that I transmitted to the Government the same news which it transmitted to me, not supposing that I previously knew it. Thus, for example, I thought I was apprising the Government of the arming of Austria, of which I received information from headquarters a few days after.

During the Prussian campaign Austria played precisely the same waiting game which Prussia had played during the campaign of Austria. As Prussia had, before the battle of Aus-terlitz, awaited the success or defeat of the French to decide whether she should remain neutral or declare herself against France, so Austria, doubtless supposing that Russia would be more fortunate as the ally of Prussia than she had been as *her* ally, assembled a corps of 40,000 men in Bohemia. That corps was called an army of observation; but the nature of these

¹ Speaking of the difference he remarked between the inhabitants of the provinces taken from Prussia to make up the Grand Duchy of Berg and of those taken for the other States, Beugnot (vol. i. p. 269) says, "The Prussians . . . had a love of their country amounting to idolatry. They retained that love . . . at the very time when Prussia was cut into fragments, which Napoleon was distributing to the right and left; and yet, when I took possession of the country of La Marck, I saw that all was not over with men who did not allow that they were conquered, and dreamed of victory even while their enemy had them under foot and was ready to give the finishing stroke."